

REMARKS

With the above amendments, minor changes have been made so that the specification and the Sequence Listing correspond to each other. Applicants also include herewith a computer readable form (CRF) of the Sequence Listing, as well as a signed Statement to Support Filing and Submission in Accordance With 37 C.F.R. §§1.821-1.825 (attached as Appendix C). In addition, an obvious typographical error has been corrected. A redacted version of paragraphs of the specification indicating the amendments thereto is attached as Appendix A.

Specifically, SEQ. ID. NOs. 206 and 207 have been assigned to peptide sequences on pages 28 and 15, respectively; inadvertently, these sequences were not assigned a specific sequence number when the application was filed.

In addition, "SEQ. ID. NO. 1243" has been replaced with --SEQ. ID. NO. 124--, thereby correcting a typographical error. Assignment of SEQ. ID. NO. 124 to this peptide sequence is clearly intended from serial nature of the identification numbers on page 19.

Finally, applicants have added --Xaa²⁹,Xaa³⁰-- within the sequence assigned to SEQ. ID. NO. 64 so that the sequence listed in the specification will correspond to the sequence listed in the CFR. Specifically, two additional amino acid residues are located in between the 28th and 31st residues of this VIP analog since conventional VIP comprises 28 residues and a VIP analog designating a 31st residue must necessarily include a 29th and 30th amino acid residue. Because no specific mention is made in the sequence assigned to SEQ. ID. NO. 64, it is understood that the two additional residues may represent any modified or naturally occurring amino acid. The software used to create the CRF of the sequence listing, however, requires each position to be explicitly recited. Thus, designations Xaa²⁹ and Xaa³⁰ are now explicitly recited in SEQ. ID. NO. 64 in the specification, thereby reflecting SEQ. ID. NO. 64 as listed in the CRF.

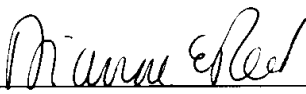
Thus, the amendments seek to bring the application in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.821-1.825, as well as to correct a minor typographical error identified in the specification. The content of the specification remains unchanged. Accordingly, no new matter has been added. Entry of the above amendments is thus proper and is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In sum, it is submitted that the claims satisfy all requirements of patentability and that the application is now in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is requested, and a prompt mailing thereof would be much appreciated. If the Examiner has any questions or wishes to discuss the matter further, he is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX A

REDACTED SECTION INDICATING AMENDMENTS MADE

In the Specification:

Please amend the peptide sequence on line 10, page 15, as follows:

Ac-[Lys¹²,Nle¹⁷,Val²⁶,Ala²⁸]-VIP (SEQ. ID. NO.: 207);

Please amend the peptide sequence on line 25, page 16 as follows:

Ac-[Glu⁸,Lys¹²,Nle¹⁷,Val²⁶,Thr²⁸,Xaa²⁹,Xaa³⁰,Phe³¹]-VIP (SEQ. ID. NO.: 64);

Please amend the peptide sequence on line 9, page 19, as follows:

[Arg¹⁶]-VIP (SEQ. ID. NO.: 1243);

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 12, page 28, as follows:

Additional secondary agents useful herein are peptide analogs of α -melanocyte-stimulating hormone (α -MSH), also referred to as "melanocortin peptides." Such peptides include the sequence His-Phe-Arg-Trp (SEQ. ID. NO.: 206), His-D-Phe-Arg-Trp, or are homologs thereof, and are preferably cyclic. A preferred melanocortin peptide is Ac-Nle-cyclo-(Asp-His-D-Phe-Arg-Trp-Lys)-OH. See U.S. Patent No. 6,051,555 to Hadley and International Patent Publication No. WO 01/00224 to Blood et al., assigned to Palatin Technologies, Inc. The aforementioned amino acid residues have their conventional meaning as given in Chapter 2422 of the *Manual of Patent Examining Procedure* (2000). Thus, "Arg" is arginine, "Nle" is norleucine, "His" is histamine, "Phe" is phenylalanine, "D-Phe" is D-phenylalanine, "Trp" is tryptophan, and "Ac" refers to an acetyl moiety, i.e., an acetyl moiety present in a peptide or amino acid sequence that is acetylated.

Please insert the Sequence Listing (attached as Appendix B) after page 48 and before the claims.
Please renumber the specification as necessary.